

DETAILED ACTION

This notice of allowance is in response to the board decision filed 16 March 2010.

The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejections against independent claim 1, but reversed all rejections against claim 11 dependent thereon. The independent claims is cancelled by the Examiner in accordance with MPEP § 1214.06, and claim 11 is converted to independent form by the Examiner's amendment as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 11 is allowed. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.109 and MPEP 1302.14, the following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons Allowance. Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statements of Reasons for Allowance".

Reasons for Allowance

Claim 11 is directed towards a method of transferring user preferences from one computer to another. Applicable prior art of record discloses employing a removable storage device to transfer configuration preferences to a plurality of computers. However, Examiner asserts the claimed method is patentable distinguishable over the

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prior art, as the claimed method performs an update of the user specific configuration preferences at the other employed computer accessing the transportable data storage medium and subsequently updating the configuration preferences on the transportable data storage medium. The prior art of record fails to teach, in the combinations and manner recited in claim 11, the feature of:

“... at least temporarily configuring the second computer in accordance with the information accessed from the transportable data storage medium;
updating the user’s unique information in accordance with the use of the second computer; and
storing the updated user’s unique information on the transportable data storage medium.”

Therefore, the claim is allowed.

EXAMINER’S AMENDMENT

An Examiner’s amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this Examiner’s amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Posa (Reg. No. 37,424) on 11 August 2010.

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The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)

~~11. The method of claim 1, wherein user files stored on the storage medium are updated in accordance with the use of the second computer. A method of transferring user preferences from one computer to another, comprising the steps of:~~

providing a transportable data storage medium;

recording on the transportable data storage medium, at a first computer, a user's unique information relating to the particular user's computer configuration preferences, including information relating to the user's preferred desktop graphical interface;

receiving the transportable data storage medium at a second computer;

accessing the user's unique information from the transportable data storage medium at the second computer;

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at least temporarily configuring the second computer in accordance with the information accessed from the transportable data storage medium;
updating the user's unique information in accordance with the use of the second computer; and
storing the updated user's unique information on the transportable data storage medium.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The reference Ricart et al. (US Patent 6,795,835) is pertinent as it discloses updating personalization information as it is restored to multiple machines; and Fisher et al. (US Patent 7,441,108) is pertinent as it discloses transporting personalized user preferences across multiple host computers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LASHANYA R. NASH whose telephone number is (571)272-3957. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (571) 272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/THUHA T. NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2453

/LaShanya R Nash/
Examiner, Art Unit 2453
August 11, 2010